

# PROSPERITY OF MORGAN HORSE?

Science May Settle Disputed Pedigree of Famous Stallion.

CLUB TO ERECT STATUE

C. C. Stillman and Associates Give Costly Bronze for Government Breeding Farm.

Discovery that the skeletons of two registered Morgan horses recently owned by C. C. Stillman show only twenty-three vertebrae instead of twenty-four, as told on this page last Sunday, has occasioned some animated and interesting discussions among horsemen as well as naturalists. Until Mr. Stillman had the bones of Donald and Dude articulated it was the accepted belief that no other horse except an Arab could boast of a missing vertebra. This supposed peculiarity of the desert courser was observed almost a century ago by the distinguished French anatomist, Louis Joseph Sanson, according to Prof. Henry Fairfield Osborn, of the American Museum of Natural History, who has himself asserted its existence. So far as is known, Dude and Donald are the only horses whose skeletons appear to refute it.

Mr. Stillman and some other doubting Thomases seem to believe the bones of the Morgans indicate that the number of vertebrae may vary in individual horses of all breeds, but faithful worshippers of the one true breed from which all equine excellence is derived spurn any such hypothesis. They "are there" with another explanation of the Morgans' missing vertebra.

**Justin Morgan's Sire.**

While the New England tavern keeper and music master of a century ago who owned the original Morgan sire always called him a Dutch horse, Joseph Battell, founder of the stud book for Morgans, ascribes his paternity to True Briton or Beautiful Bay, a charger ridden during the Revolutionary War by Col. James De Lancry, a New York Tory in arms, from whom he was captured near King's Bridge by some adventurous Skimmers and ridden off into the Continental lines. As the latter was a horse of choice full of Arabian blood through both sire and dam, and if he was in reality the progenitor of the Justin Morgan horse, it might well be that he was transmitted through him to the Morgan breed the anomalous anatomy of the Arab.

Mr. Battell's pedigree of Justin Morgan was not based on any scientific investigation now being made by the Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington that Arabs and Morgans are the only horses having less than twenty-four vertebrae, this fact would go very far to prove the Battell pedigree. Pedigrees have been established and also overturned by recent discoveries relating to the inheritance of coat color in horses, but it would be something new for science to prove the paternity of a horse that dies a hunter and goes ago by the backbone of the present day descendants.

**Bronze Statue of Great Sire.**

Next winter will mark the end of a century since the Justin Morgan horse, whose name probably was figured in the annals of the breed, died. He had a kick at the age of 21 near the village of Chelsea, Vt. It is doubtful whether any horse has ever been so strikingly impressed upon his descendants to the fifth and sixth generations his own striking and valuable characteristics, adding millions of dollars to the wealth of the country and the members of the Morgan Horse Club, of which Mr. Stillman is secretary, are going to celebrate the centenary of his death by unveiling a bronze statue of the stallion at the Morgan Farm, Middlebury, Vt., which is owned and operated by the United States Government. The statue is now being cast from the model by Frederick G. Roth and the unveiling will take place in September with appropriate ceremonies.

No portrait of Justin Morgan or figure was ever made from life, so far as is known, and the sculptor has worked entirely from descriptions of the horse. First hand descriptions are scarce. The one usually considered best was written thirty years after his death by D. C. Linsley, a man who never saw him. Mr. Linsley wrote a book about Morgan horses in 1856 and had unusual opportunities for seeing his description from original sources, long since cut off. He said:

**A Masterly Description.**

"Justin Morgan was about 14 hands high and weighed 950 pounds. His color was dark bay with black legs, mane and tail. He had no white hairs on him. His mane and tail were coarse and heavy, but not so thick as those of some horses described; the hair of both was straight, and not inclined to curl. His head was good, not extremely small, but long and deep, close ribbed, forehead broad, ears small and very fine, but set rather wide apart. His eyes were medium size, very dark and prominent, with a spirited but pleasant expression, and showed no white around the edge of the lid. His nostrils were very large, the muzzle small and the lips close and firm. His back and legs were very straight, his neck and poll were very short, the shoulder blades and hipbones being very long and oblique and the loins exceedingly broad and muscular. His body was rather long, round and deep, close ribbed, projecting a good deal in front. His legs were short, close jointed, thin but very wide, hard, and from front to back were very remarkably large for a horse of his size, and this superabundance of muscle exhibited itself at every step. His hair was short and at almost all seasons soft and glossy. He had a little long hair about the fetlocks and for two or three inches above the fetlock on the back side of the leg; the rest of the limbs entirely free from it. His feet were small but well shaped and he was in every respect perfectly sound and free from any sort of blemish. He was a very fast walker. In trotting his gait was long and smooth and his steps short and nervous. He was not what in these days would be called fast, and we think it doubtful whether he could trot a mile much in any within 4 minutes, though it is claimed by many he could trot it in three.

"Although he raised his feet but little he never stumbled. His proud, bold and fearless style of movement and his vigorous, untiring action have, perhaps, never been surpassed. When a rider was on him he was obedient to the slightest motion of the rein, would walk backward rapidly under a gentle pressure of the bit and moved sideways almost as willingly as he moved forward; it short, was perfectly trained to all the evolutions of a parade horse and when ridden at military reviews, as was frequently the case, his

## Most Versatile of Winners Under Saddle



TRIGGERS, PHOTO BY HARRIS

Cyril Carr is fitting J. Macy Willett's versatile saddle horse Triggers for the Devon show next month. The big brown gelding was the largest winner of his class in the past last season, having earned \$1,486 and carried off two championships, sixteen first prizes and fifty-two ribbons at eleven shows. Few if any other saddle horses have won under such varied conditions. At one show he won a ten mile race for road hacks and came back the next day to win a half mile trotting race under saddle. He has won repeatedly at the best trained saddle horse; has been first as a road hack, a lady's saddle horse, a combination saddle and harness horse

and as an all round riding, driving and jumping horse, besides winning his way to the championship in open saddle classes. C. H. Jones of Boston, who brought out Triggers in 1916, says his sire was the registered trotting stallion Silver Eagle, by Eagle Bird, 2:21, son of Jay Bird, by George Wilkes, 2:32. Triggers' dam has been represented to be a thoroughbred mare called Little Blaise, by imported St. Blaise, out of a daughter of Virgil, and she out of Lilla D. by Lexington out of Falcon, the sister to Gray Eagle. But the American Stud Book indicates that Lilla D. never had a foal, nor is there such a mare as Little Blaise in the records.

**FOR COOPERATIVE SADDLE HORSES**

Club Will Test Plan to Keep Cost of Riding Within Reach of the Many.

**By GEORGE T. MORRIS.**

To keep horseback riding within the reach of men and women of moderate means is one of the objectives of the National Saddle Horse Club, upon which it took action at a recent meeting in the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Recognizing the lack of facilities for horses and their owners that is threatening to crowd them out of all cities and make the privilege of owning saddle horses the prerogative of the wealthy alone the club expects to put into operation next summer a plan which will make it possible to have the use of a horse for two days a week at a cost of \$5 to \$20 a month, depending upon local conditions. This will be through the medium of a cooperative club, having its own stable, its own horses and employing its own help.

Among the interesting letters which have come to the club asking for details of the cooperative plan and other assistance is one from Thomas W. Le Quette of Des Moines, Iowa, in which are mentioned as existing in Des Moines many of the conditions that the cooperative club is designed to meet, and some of which are "lack of convenient place to keep a horse, unwillingness to put a good horse in a livery barn, inclination to travel the necessary distance from home to the fair grounds where only are suitable quarters for horses; doubt that they will want to ride enough to justify the expense of maintaining their own stable and horses; and unwillingness to provide a horse for one member of the family without providing other members with the same, and the cost out of proportion to the use that will be made of them."

These conditions are typical of those existing in a thousand towns and cities in the United States. The love of the horse and the desire to enjoy what is perhaps the most invigorating and delightful of all outdoor exercises exists in no less a degree now than before the advent of the automobile, but it is becoming more difficult to gratify.

The first work of the club will be to assist in putting one or more of these cooperative clubs into active and successful operation and demonstrate their practicability. The organization will then provide the means to extend the work all over the country.

Horseback riding has attained the stage where organization is necessary to keep it within reach of the average rider. We have such an organization now and it is getting in shape to make its constructive operations felt. Its purpose is to preserve the saddle horse and the beautiful recreation and companionship to be derived from it. Among its officers are men of affairs, wide vision and purely disinterested motives which augurs well for the success of the work.

Horseback riding has a different appeal from almost any other form of exercise in that it commands the sympathy of the world, for it links man's sympathies with the lower animals and thus proves ennobling.

**PUT CHIC AND KICK INTO RIDING CLOTHES**

It means something when firms like Stadler & Stadler of 785 Fifth Avenue and Nardi of 73 West Forty-seventh street single out the Horse Page of THE SUNDAY HERALD to make their business announcements. Probably no other tailors in the world cater to a more discriminating clientele or put more chic and kick into riding clothes and other clothes. Mr. Stadler is a native rider in Central Park, while Mr. Nardi never misses a horse show. Neither of them has to ask his advertising agent where to reach the right people.

**GREAT PACERS TO RACE.**

Eleven subscribers have posted for the \$5,000 pacing race at Springfield, Mass. Those who must name their horses on September 1 control thirteen saddlewheelers whose records average 2:02. These are Single G. 1:59; Louise Grant, 2:00; Grace Direct, 2:00 1/2; Sanardo, 2:00 1/2; Adio Guy, 2:00 1/2; Directum J., 2:01 1/2; Direct C., 2:01 1/2; Margaret, 2:01 1/2; Ray Grattan, 2:03 1/2; Symol S. Forrest, 2:03 1/2; Princess Mary, 2:03 1/2; Dan Hedgewood, 2:05 1/2; and Baron Attis, 2:06. It is perhaps the fastest field ever entered for a race on a half mile track.

## TIMELY GOSSIP OF HORSE SHOWS

Winners and Losers From Brooklyn to Meet Before New Judges This Week.

By GURNEY C. GUE.

The show horses and their followers will move this week from Brooklyn to Durland's Riding Academy, where the twenty-sixth annual exhibition is billed to open on Tuesday evening. Like the one just closed, it will be essentially a saddle horse and hunter show, the classes for harness horses having failed to fill. An indoor polo tournament will, however, give variety to the exhibition, and while many of the best horses seen in Brooklyn will come together again, the interest may be increased rather than diminished, owing to the presence of new judges in the ring. Last year, it will be remembered, there were some striking reversals in the awards at the New York show. L. E. Waring and James G. Marshall are to be the judges of saddle horses at Durland's this week. R. Ponson Smith and Thomas G. Ashton will judge the jumpers, and Harry S. Peters and Robert A. Grannis the polo ponies. The show will close on Friday.

The conspicuous absence of horses from Philadelphia, Boston and other nearby cities at last week's exhibition in Brooklyn is attributed in part to the present high cost of shipping by rail. New express and freight rates are particularly discouraging to owners of show horses, who could not often hope to win expenses even under present transportation charges. Harness horses, of course, are much more expensive than any others to take about the country, as the necessary carriages, harness and equipment require so much space in shipping. That nearly all shows will have to rely more largely on local entries in the future is the beller of a good many horsemen.

Harness racing has long been under fire for the length of time consumed in scoring before the horses start in each heat, but for leisurely judging and letting things drag some of the horse shows can give cards and spades to almost any country trotting meeting. Such a thing as keeping up to the time card is virtually unknown, except on those rare occasions when one judge who is sure of himself officiates. The time card is a decision can be reached the first of an evening show is often in the early morning hours, before the sun is up, and the weary occupants have given up and gone home. The exhibition in Brooklyn last week dragged badly in this respect. Let us hope for more prompt work at Durland's.

Watchful, one of the successful novice riders of last season and a prospective champion at the year's shows, had a narrow escape from being drafted into the German army a few years ago, according to Frank J. McKay. The twenty-four-year-old rider says he bought the bay gelding for \$185 in a lot of surplus United States cavalry horses after the Swiss army inspectors had rejected him. The year's show was sold for \$300 to J. K. Dering of Chicago, who brought him out last season, winning sixteen ribbons at four shows.

R. E. Moreland is fitting three fast trotters for the horse shows of 1921. Melville Worthing, 2:30 1/2, is a registered black horse, while Grace Drake, 2:09 1/2, and Suldine, 2:06 1/2, are for light harness classes at the few shows which still remain there.

Wednesday, May 25, will be Novice Day at the Devon Horse Show this year. Thursday is designated as Hunters' Day, Friday as Hackney Day and Saturday as Children's Day and Monday as Champions' Day.

**ABDALLAH PLAIN, SAYS CHARLES MOSER**

Charles G. Moser, one of the old time trainers of trotting horses in Brooklyn, talked interestingly the other day to a reporter of THE NEW YORK HERALD concerning Tredwell's Abdullah, the sire of several champions. The sire of Abdullah was a bay gelding named Abdullah, who was bred by the Quaker farmer who bred him, near Jamaica, L. I. He was the first sire of trotting horses to qualify as standard under the rules governing admission to the stud book and his number is 1 in that repository of equine genealogy.

No picture of the horse made from life is known to be in existence, and horsemen who knew him in the flesh have differed materially in describing him. Mr. Moser, however, saw Abdullah, but he said he had often heard him described by Peter Vanderveer of Flatbush and had seen a painting from life by Vanderveer, who had remarkable talent for making lifelike and accurate portraits of horses.

**KING LARIO TO BE SOLD.**

James Cox Brady has sent all his Shetland gelding, King Lario, N. J., to Washington, Ill., to be sold there at auction on Tuesday. King Lario, the most successful prize winner of the breed in America, heads the list of forty-two stallions, mares and colts catalogued. Mr. Brady says his reason for selling is that he wants more room at Hamilton Farm for his stud of hackney ponies.

**LOVING CUP FOR MR. KRAUSS.**

Charles T. Krauss, for twenty years head riding master at Durland's and commander of the Wednesday evening music and dance orchestra, has been named as the recipient of a handsome loving cup to the veteran instructor in appreciation of his long and faithful service at the academy.

**DEVON HORSE SHOW AND COUNTRY FAIR, INC.**

AMERICA'S "OUTDOOR NATIONAL" AT DEVON, PENNA.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday (Memorial Day)

May 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 1921

Championship Classes for Novice Horses

Grand Champion Harness Horses and

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Authoritative Riding and Golf Clothes

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785 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK  
BETWEEN 60TH AND 61ST STREETS.

**HARBISON HORSES AT AUCTION**

Mr. S. T. Harbison, of Lexington, Ky., instructs us to sell for him his second and final shipment of saddle horses for this season.

20—KENTUCKY SADDLE HORSES—20

SALE TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 3rd, AT 8 P. M.

**DURLAND'S RIDING ACADEMY**

5 West 66th St., New York.

This firm is selling this spring an exceptionally beautiful lot of saddle horses. They have been eight months collecting and getting them ready. Their horses are well schooled and come to market in prime condition.

**PARTIAL DESCRIPTIONS:**

**DIXIE GIRL.**  
Chestnut Mare, 15 1/2 Hands.  
This is the spotiest saddle horse that has been seen in the Durland ring this spring. She has charming, round, high action and is as graceful as a queen. A real show horse.

**GOLD SEAL.**  
Chestnut Gelding, 15 1/2 Hands.  
Beautifully turned, with speed and action at the trot. He has riding shoulders and withers, is well schooled.

**ROBERT JOY.**  
Black Mare, 15 Hands.  
A beautifully registered saddle horse, by Bonham King, a winner and from a family of winners. Ready for the show.

**Brown Gelding, 15 1/2 Hands.**  
A short backed, closely made horse, built up a charming ride. Can trot very fast, is elegantly gaited, clever to all sights.

**Chestnut Mare, 15 Hands.**  
A fine small mare, beautiful riding condition, good sound manners; nice for boy or girl.

**Gray Gelding, 14 Hands.**  
A charming boy or girl's pony, with very fine head and style; will attract attention in any company.

**WINEWOMAN.**  
Bay Gelding, 15 1/2 Hands.  
Full made, big horse on short legs; up to any country trotting work, good manners, comfortable gait and weight carrying capacity.

**WINNIE WINNIE.**  
Black Mare, 15 Hands.  
Denmark type, with very beautiful lines. Has correct gait, good manners, fine disposition. Is cleverly broken.

Mr. Harbison writes: "The horses in this shipment are up to the standard in quality and as good as the lot we sold April 5th. There are some very highly prized show prospects in this shipment."

They will be on exhibition at the Academy three days prior to the sale. Write William Durland, 5 West 66th St., for catalogue with descriptions.

FOLLOWED BY OTHER CONSIGNORS.

Those having high class horses which they wish to dispose of in our sales of May 2d, 11th and 17th, should send descriptions of horses at once to receive preferred positions in Catalogues.

That our mailing list may be kept up to date, those wishing catalogues of sales will send name and address to:

WM. DURLAND, 5 West 66th St., Phone CO. 9100  
George A. Bain, Auctioneer.

THE DURLAND COMPANY, William Durland, President.

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25 HEAD DIRECT FROM A LARGE NEBRASKA SHIPPER.

25 HEAD—ANOTHER full mixed lot, CRITICALLY SELECTED BY DR. T. A. BROWN, Chiropractor, Iowa.

25 HEAD OF DESIRABLE, SEASONED horses from a LARGE WHOLESALE CONCERN.

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10:30 A. M., RAIN OR SHINE

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**50 Sets Single and Double Harness, 40 Trucks,**

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Box seats and stand tickets on sale at the Durland Academy.

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Slightly used English officers' saddles; genuine cowboy saddle, police officer saddle, McClellan saddle; full line new and used harness; also new and slightly used English stable blankets, automobile robes and cowhairs.

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MONDAY, APRIL 25th.

Complete Business Outfits, Trucks, Carriages, Harness, &c. TO THE HIGHEST BIDDERS WITHOUT RESERVE.

Owing to enormous amount of entries for the sale we will be compelled to start promptly at 9 o'clock.

Extra Special Consignment for This Sale

At 11 o'clock A. M.

### 300 U. S. Gov't Horses

HEAVY ARTILLERY TYPE

Among them Well-Matched pairs of dapple grays, roans and bays. Also

### 50—GOOD SADDLE HORSES—50

Used in camp as officers' mounts.

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Our Written Guarantee Accompanies Every Warranted Horse and Permits of Trial Up to Noon Wednesday.

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**8—GOOD WORK HORSES—8**

Including Harness.

**3 Double Trucks, 2 Single Trucks**

1 Diamond T 5-ton Windlass loose rack motor truck, 1917 model, in first-class condition. Also blankets, covers, feed bags, etc.

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Brewster Bus, natural wood Birdseye Maple, perfect order, khaki lined, baggage rack, pole and shafts. Cost \$2,500.

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